

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-10 ARA-06

EA-07 SAM-01 /116 W

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R 091145Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL DOUALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1008

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOUALA 0323

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, EK, NI, SP

SUBJ: EQUATORIAL GUINEA ON EVE SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY INDEPENDENCE

REFS: A) DOUALA 320

B) YAOUNDE 3099

C) LAGOS 8657

D) YAOUNDE 3004

E) YAOUNDE 3003

F) DOUALA A-9, AUGUST 29, 1975

1. SUMMARY: SINCE PREPARATION REPAIR F EARLY AUGUST, TEMPO POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS E.G. PICKING UP AND PRESSURES ON MACIAS APPEAR GREATER THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE HIS ASSUMPTION POWER SEPTEMBER 29, 1968 AND E.G. INDEPENDENCE OCTOBER 12 SAME YEAR. WHILE COUP PREDICTION IMPRECISE SCIENCE AT BEST, EVENTS PAST TWO MONTHS LEAD TO CONCLUSION THAT MACIAS MAY BE STRUCTURING SITUATION SO EVEN HIS MOST FERVENT SUPPORTERS MAY EVENTUALLY AGREE HE MUST GO.

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PRESENT SITUATION MAY ENDURE FOR SOME MONTHS OR BOIL OVER ANY

TIME. DIFFICULT TELL WHETHER MACIAS SUCCESSOR WILL BE UNKNOWN FROM MILITARY OR PROMINENT EXILED LEADER LIKE FORMER MINISTER DON ANDRES MOISES. END SUMMARY.

2. ACTING AS IF POSSESSED BY THANATOS, MACIAS IS IN PROCESS OF CUTTING OFF REMAINING PROPS CONTRIBUTING FUTURE STABILITY HIS RULE. SINCE END OF JULY, FIRST AIRLIFT (REFTEL D) AND NOW SEA-LIFT (REFTEL C) NIGERIAN WORKERS UNDERMINING ABILITY E.G. HARVEST COCOA CROP, MAINSTAY OF ECONOMY. GOVERNMENT WORKERS BEING REQUIRED SPEND PART TIME COCOA PLANTATIONS IN ATTEMPT SALVAGE AS MUCH CROP AS POSSIBLE NOW THAT HARVEST BEGINNING FULL SWING, THEREBY FURTHERING CATATONIC STATE OF GOVERNMENT. MACIAS HAS DENOUNCED AS SUBVERSIVE UNDP AGREEMENT TO WHICH HE ASSENTED LAST RYEAR AND WHICH WOULD HAVE GIVEN HIM SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ESPECIALLY FOR COCOA REJUVENATION. PRINCIPAL REMAINING WESTERN SUPPORT NOW SERIOUSLY THREATENED BY EXPULSION SPANISH AMBASSADOR CASSO GARCIA, (REFTEL A), THUS LEAVING MACIAS ALMOST COMPLETELY DEPENDENT CHARITY OF SOCIALIST STATES.

3. WITHIN GOVERNMENT, MACIAS HAS REMOVED SEVERAL SENIOR MILITARY COMMANDERS (REFAIR F), THE VICE PRESIDENT, AND SECRETARY OF PRESIDENCY, AND MANY LONGTIME SUPPORTERS RUMORED TO BE OUT IN IMPENDING CABINET REORGANIZATION (REFTELS B AND E). EVEN HIS FAVORITE NEPHEW REPORTEDLY HAS FLED COUNTRY WITH LARGE AMOUNT OFFICIAL FUNDS (REFTEL E).

4. IN SHORT PICTURE EMERGES OF LIFE PRESIDENT ALMOST DELIBERATELY STRUCTURING SITUATION WHICH WILL LEAD TO EVEN GREATER ISOLATION ON HIS PART AND MAY BRING ABOUT COMPLETION HIS TERM. UNLESS HE BECOMES MORE COMPLIANT TO WISHES HIS SOVIET AND CUBAN ADVISORS ON THE ONE SIDE OF CHINESE ON THE OTHER THEN THEY TOO MAY DECIDE MACIAS NOT WORTH THE TROUBLE. DIFFICULTY IS THAT SOVIETS AND CHINESE MOST LIKELY HAVE COLLISION COURSE AIMS WHICH LEAVES MACIAS VULNERABLE IN THE MIDDLE. IF HE TILTS TOWARD EITHER SIDE, THE OTHER MAY SUPPORT ATTEMPT TO DEPOSE HIM.

5. FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT, EXPULSION SPANISH AMBASSADOR AT THIS TIME IN AFTERMATH SPANISH SMARTING OVER WORLD REACTION AGAINST EXECUTION OF POLICE MURDERERS, MAY HAVE BEEN EXCUSE MADRID HARDLINERS HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR TO CUT E.G. ADRIFT. SIGNALS FUTURE CONFIDENTIAL

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SPANISH POLICY WILL BE HOW RAPIDLY THEY REPLACE CASSO GARCIA, OFFER ANY SUPPORT TO THE NEW CURRENCY, OR IF THEY BEGIN WITHDRAW IBERIA SUPPORT GOEG-OWNED LAGES AIRLINES.

6. THERE IS CURRENTLY NO CLEAR-CUT INDICATION OF WHEN OR HOW CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE EFFECTED, OR WHO WOULD TAKE CHARGE. HOWEVER, EVERY REVOLUTION CREATES ITS OWN HEROES AND EVERY COUP

GIVES BIRTH AT LEAST ONE CLAIMANT FOR TITLE CHIEF OF STATE. MOST
LIKELY CANDIDATE NATURALLY FROM MILITARY AND COULD BE CAPTAIN
THEODORO NGUEME MBASOGO, PRESENT HEAD OF MILITARY HOUSEHOLD AS
SENIOR MILITARY OFFICER OR SOME NEWLY INDOCTRINATED OFFICER JUST
RETURNED FROM OVERSEAS TRAINING COMMUNIST COUNTRY. LESS LIKELY
ALTERNATIVE IS RETURN PROMINENT EXILED LEADER SUCH AS FORMER
MINISTER ANDRES MOISES.

7. THIS CABLE CLEARED BY EMBASSY YAOUNDE.
MITHOEFER

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